

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 01995 290936 Z

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ACTION SS-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 EB-11 IGA-02 PM-09 INR-10 RSR-01

RSC-01 TRSE-00 /059 W

----- 051694

R 290757 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1644

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FOR: UNDER SECRETARY CASEY FROM AMBASSADOR HELMS

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, IR

SUBJECT: IRAN'S SURPLUS PROPERTY AND LEND- LEASE DEBTS

REF: TEHRAN 1994

1. ONE OF THE KNOTTY PROBLEMS PRESENTED ME SOON AFTER ARRIVAL IS THE QUESTION OF IRAN'S ARREARS ON IRAN'S SURPLUS PROPERTY AND LEND- LEASE ACCOUNTS. IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE I HAVE ASKED FOR APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS TO HANDLE THE FOUR OUT OF THE FIVE ACCOUNTS WHICH APPEAR TO BE EASILY RESOLVED. ONCE THESE ARE OUT OF THE WAY, IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO FOCUS GOI'S ATTENTION

ON THE REMAINING ACCOUNT, I. E. THE SURPLUS PROPERTY AGREEMENT OF JULY 1948.

2. THE EMBASSY IS (AND HAS BEEN) PURSUING THIS WHOLE MATTER IN WHAT I CONSIDER TO BE A PURPOSEFUL AND PRODUCTIVE WAY. ON THE BASIS OF MY PRESENT UNDERSTANDING OF THE SITUATION, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF WASHINGTON WOULD REFRAIN FROM APPLYING UNIQUE FORMS OF PRESSURE WHICH CAN ONLY SERVE TO DAMAGE SALES AND INVESTMENTS SITUATIONS OF FAR GREATER IMPORTANCE TO US BALANCE OF PAYMENTS THAN THE POLITICALLY SENSITIVE QUESTION OF CLEARING UP THIS LONG- STANDING ACCOUNT.
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3. ACCORDINGLY, IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF THE INSTRUCTIONS
I HAVE REQUESTED IN A PARALLEL TELEGRAM COULD BE AUTHORIZED
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND THAT I BE PERMITTED A SHORT BUT AP-
PROPRIATELY GENEROUS PERIOD TO TRY TO SORT OUT THE EQUITIES

INVOLVED. MEANWHILE, WE WILL CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO COLLECT
THE REMAINING SPLL ACCOUNTS AND TO CLARIFY IRANIAN THINKING
ON THE BASIC PRINCIPLE OF PAYING THE LARGER ACCOUNT.
HELMS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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